

TALON



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Colonel Paul D. Eaton, commander of troops, and the color guard display the colors during the American national anthem at the Transfer of Authority ceremony held at Tuzla Airfield. (Photo by Specialist Jason Shepherd. See pages 6 and 7.)

"Do. Or do not. There is no try" – Yoda, excerpt from "Star Wars".

The Task Force Eagle Web site is located at www.tfeagle.army.mil

The Task Force Eagle web site offers breaking news and photos on its web site. The web site provides information concerning the Turk, Russian, and NORDPOL Brigade assigned to Task Force Eagle, as well as U.S. soldiers stationed in Bosnia.

**By Command Sergeant Major
 Dwight J. Brown
 Task Force Eagle CSM**

During my dual role as Multinational Division (North) and 1st Armored Division Command Sergeant Major, I've had the opportunity to work with some extremely talented soldiers and leaders. And now, as my tenure comes to an end, I want to acknowledge the tremendous camaraderie and esprit de corps of senior noncommissioned officers and soldiers who supported me throughout this tour, and helped to make this mission a success.

The loyalty and unity demonstrated by the senior staff members assisted in guiding the Task Force through the challenges of this mission. Together, we carried out our tasks, and like the soldiers before us, conducted our nation's business. We met our mission and exceeded our country's expectations. We have helped ensure that the children of Bosnia will have a bright and peaceful future.

For some soldiers, this mission was their first hazardous duty assignment. I want to commend them for their self-discipline and adaptability to make all the adjustments they had to make during this assignment. The soldiers with hazardous duty experience shared their knowledge and skills with the younger soldiers, and helped them learn about serving in this foreign environment.

Every soldier's contribution is important to complete the mission. The soldiers working in the dining facility, or behind the computer, are just as important as the soldiers conducting presence missions and weapon storage site inspections. It's a team concept that makes this Task Force strong.

For the incoming 1st Cavalry Division, I want to recognize and thank all the soldiers and staff for their cooperative spirit and vital contributions. I want to encourage you to continue to demonstrate your leadership abilities and wish good luck to you and to the incoming Command Sergeant Major Paul M. Inman as he takes the helm. **"Dare to make a difference."**



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Task Force Eagle Commander	Major General Kevin P. Byrnes
Editor in Chief	Major Tom Evans
OIC.....	Captain Randall L. Harris
NCOIC	Sergeant First Class Patricia A. Johnson
Chief Editor	Sergeant Scott Speed
Managing Editor	Specialist Jason Shepherd
Layout and Design Editor	Private First Class Nicole Alberico
TFE Webmaster	Sergeant Lisa Ward/Specialist Lloyd Phelps

Making airborne history in Tuzla

Story and photos by Sergeant First Class Donald R. Dunn II
319th Mobile Public Affairs Det.

American, Russian and Polish airborne soldiers made history by jumping together for the first time during a cool, clear morning Sept. 28 at Tuzla Airfield.

The jump was a joint effort to enhance relations with the three countries, and provide airborne proficiency training.

The airborne soldiers gathered early in the morning and were given prejump briefings, which included everything from equipment rigging to making proper parachute landing falls.

The day started with overcast skies, but the weather conditions improved and the jump was conducted as planned. The airborne operation included three passes by Air Force MC-130 Hercules aircraft, and each jump included a mix of the joint forces.

Among those who participated were five Polish, 25 Russian and 33 American soldiers. All the soldiers had jumped in the last six months, but never together.

Tuzla Airfield was the drop zone, an area 600 yards wide and 1250 yards long. The soldiers successfully completed their jumps without any injuries.

"We stress safety in our briefings of any operation such as this, and we also use a linguist to make sure everyone knows the routine," Captain Eric N. Miller, the executive officer of the Special Operations Command and Control Element, and resident of Redlands, Ca., said. "Then we practice with our buddies and on our own to make sure we complete the task."

Senior Sergeant Sergey Melnikov, a parachute squad leader in the 106th Russian Airborne Division from Tula, Russia, said through an interpreter, "I have been in the Russian Army over 3 years and this is my first jump with other airborne soldiers from other countries. I have enjoyed learning their jumping procedures."

"The equipment here is different. I like to train with other armies in other places. This helps us develop better relations with each other," Captain Grzegorz Grzybowski of the 16th Polish Airborne Battalion, and resident of Krakow, Poland said, also through an interpreter.

"My job is to work as a linguist and a liaison between Polish, Russian and American forces," James H. Petry, a Special Forces communication linguist from the 10th Special Forces Group located in Fort Carson, Colo. said. "This has been very exciting for me, because I can apply my skills here in Bosnia," the Troy, Ala. native said.

Major General Larry R. Ellis, the Multinational Division (North) commander, was on hand at the end of the jump. "This is a first here in the Multinational Division (North), and is a partnership for peace we do on a daily basis," he said. "We held a safe airborne operation with three different languages and jumped out of one single aircraft. Airborne!"

After jumping, the Polish and Russian airborne soldiers received their jump wings from the American soldiers. Then the Russians and Polish Airborne commanders presented certificates to the American soldiers to show their appreciation in this joint exercise and a job well done.



Russian airborne soldiers prepare to jump from a C-130 aircraft during a joint exercise with Polish and American airborne forces.

Opening of Task Force Eagle Hospital



The honorary ribbon cutters at Eagle Base's new hospital were from left to right: Mr. Don Williams, Command Sergeant Major Sampson J. Rush, Staff Sergeant Johnny R. Hogg, Staff Sergeant Nathan L. Bonds, Major General Larry R. Ellis, Colonel Holly L. Doyne, Captain Allison Stamides, Colonel Thomas P. Bostwick and Sergeant First Class James L. Plymire.

Story and Photo by Specialist Robert B. Valentine
319th Mobile Public Affairs Det.

Completing construction of a new hospital at Eagle Base, and transferring assets from Guardian Base, has been described as a "miracle" by virtue of the swift manner in which the teams completed the mission.

The combined efforts of the Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 133, 94th Engineer Construction Brigade and Brown and Root crews of electricians and plumbers put the plan into action and made the vision a reality.

Planning of the Eagle Base hospital began in early June of this year. The decision to relocate the hospital from the Blue Factory to Eagle Base was made in conjunction with the move to consolidate base camps throughout Multinational Division (North).

Construction began with the ground breaking on July 29. Colonel Holly L. Doyne, Task Force Medical Eagle Commander and commander of the 67th Combat Support Hospital said, "This was a complete team effort to ensure that this would be a quality facility." The hospital was built to last, in keeping with a possible long term plan to have it turned over to the Bosnian people, Doyne said.

"We took a generic building design and changed it to accommodate the specific needs of the Task Force Eagle mission," said Captain Allison Stamides, the hospital architect from Arlington, Mass. with the U.S. Army Health Facility Planning Agency, Office of the Army Surgeon General. "The plans were based

on the expected number of patients and staff."

The hospital will provide pharmacy services, radiology, inpatient and outpatient surgery, psychiatric services, physical therapy, optometry, dental, a well women's clinic and emergency room services, according to Doyne.

Such services were available at Blue Factory, but now they are offered at a much larger scale, said Sergeant First Class Trevon Flemming, the first sergeant of the 41st CSH.

"We have here a group of highly motivated professionals ready to do the job. We have been preparing for this operation since April of last year. We have trained at the Joint Readiness Training Center and other exercises," said the Saint Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands native.

The 67th CSH members completed the changeover with the incoming 41st CSH, and have successfully transferred medical equipment and supplies from Guardian to Eagle Base.

As Staff Sergeant Johnny R. Hogg, the assistant chief ward master for the 67th CSH, prepares for redeployment now that his mission is done, his brother's task is only beginning.

Calvin R. Hogg, from Livingston, Texas and ward master for the intensive care unit, is a member of the incoming 41st CSH. "This is the first time we have been deployed overseas to the same place," Hogg said. "We are very competitive, so I jumped at the opportunity to come over here."

"This deployment went by really fast. We were constantly busy. The first week was spent on training," said Corporal Dawn M. Hickman, from Daytona, Fla. and a combat medic with the 67th CSH. "During the next four months, we actually did our jobs. The last month has been devoted to the move here to Eagle Base and redeployment to Wuerzburg, Germany."

At Blue Factory, Hickman, along with many other American soldiers, had the opportunity to work with Norwegians in their field of medicine. "I was part of a Cisu crew. I learned new techniques and combined our skills," Hickman said. A Cisu is a Norwegian six-wheeled rescue vehicle that is used to extract injured soldiers in the field.

Members of the Red Cross benefit from the hospital move from Guardian to Eagle. "Now we can come by and check on patients more easily. Before, we had to coordinate with others to get a ride on a convoy," Carolyn A. Reeves, a Red Cross staff member, said.

"We have the opportunity to visit the sick on a daily basis," Reeves, a Jackson, Miss. native, said.

With the peacekeeping mission requiring the presence of American soldiers in the Balkans, it is reassuring for soldiers to know there are dedicated caregivers ready and accessible here at Eagle Base, if and when they are needed.

Army takes to the sky with balloon, predicts weather for McGovern

Story and Photo by Private First Class
Phillip E. Breedlove Jr.
22nd Mobile Public Affairs Det.

A lot of people are interested in what's going on over there — what we're doing," said Private First Class Brian T. Hawkins, a field artillery meteorological crewmember with Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, Division Artillery meteorological unit, 1st Armored Division.

"We draw crowds. People come over all the time and watch it," said Specialist Philip A. King, a Columbia, S.C. native and a crewmember with the meteorological unit.

Every morning at Camp McGovern these meteorological crew members release a weather balloon into the atmosphere that determines wind speed and direction, humidity, pressure and temperature within 20 kilometers of the base camp, said Hawkins, an Albuquerque, N.M. native.

Weather information is useful for several reasons, Hawkins continued. For instance, the unit that operates the Firefinder artillery radar uses meteorological data to adjust their computers for indirect fire. The McGovern Air Force weather observers also use this information to determine how the weather will affect aircraft, which is an essential part of their mission.

The whole system, which costs about \$200, consists of a helium-filled balloon, a half-pound radio sonde, a digital device which takes the readings in the atmosphere and a parachute, Hawkins said.

King said the sonde is designed to be disposable because it's more cost efficient to use a new sonde each launch than to track down the old one, repair it and reuse it.

The balloon system takes roughly 15 minutes to assemble, and most of that time is spent testing and preparing the sonde, continued King. A strip of special tape with simulated data encoded on it is inserted into the device. It then sends the data to a computer controlled from the ground. If the readings on the computer match those on the tape, the device is deemed accurate. If the readings are not accurate, the sonde is scrapped and another is used.

As the device rises, it sends out readings. The computer breaks the data down, recording the readings every 500 meters. After 5,000 meters, it records data in increments of 1,000 meters.

The data is used to predict the weather for the next four hours, continued King. Beyond that, it can be roughly estimated. If the weather changes drastically, the unit simply launches another balloon, and the process starts over.



Private First Class Carolyn M. Carey, a meteorological crew member with Company C, 1st Battalion, 21st Field Artillery Unit, and a Hange, Va. native, and Sergeant First Class Mark W. Winans, a meteorological section leader, also with Company C, and a Camarillo, Calif., native, attach a rope to the radio sonde.

At an altitude of 11,000 to 12,000 meters, the balloon pops, engaging the parachute to bring the device safely to the ground.

Most soldiers know weather is predicted at McGovern, but they don't know how, said King. In fact, few people even realize there is a military occupational specialty that involves collecting data from the atmosphere. King said this doesn't discourage him though. "There are a lot of people that count on the weather for a lot of things," said King.

MND (N) trans



Photo by Specialist Robert B. Valentine, 319th Mobile Public Affairs Det.

Major General Ellis (left) and Command Sergeant Major Brown stands in front of the honor guard at the Transfer of Authority ceremony.



Photo by Specialist Natalie D. Haslem, 319th Mobile Public Affairs Det.

(From left to right) Major General Ellis, General Shinseki and Major General Byrnes prepare for the TOA ceremony.

Story by Specialist Jason Shepherd
22nd Mobile Public Affairs Det.

The 1st Armored Division transferred its mission in a ceremony held Oct. 7. Major General Larry R. Ellis passed the guidon to Major General Kevin P. Byrnes, his soldiers for a job well done.

"Today, the 1st Armored Division retook Bosnia-Herzegovina, as it once again became a part of Task Force Eagle," Ellis said. It is important to note that although our 1st Armored Division is completed, the multinational NATO Division, Multinational Division (North), is its final destination."

The 1st Armored Division has been involved in many other accomplishments. In Bosnia-Herzegovina hold their first free elections, the 1st AD has performed admirably.

"1st Armored Division soldiers showed their performance," said Command Sergeant Major of MND. "In passing the colors today between them, they were asked to do, they did it with selfless service."

General Eric M. Shinseki, Stabilization Force officer for the ceremony, talked a little about the commanders during his speech.

"In passing the colors today between them, I will take the colors from one old friend to a new one, and for whom I have great respect, and with whom I have served before and will serve again."

association, and for both him and this division, I have great respect."

The afternoon ceremony began with the Turkish band performing, followed by the arrival of the Shinseki, Ellis, and Byrnes. An invocation followed by the inspection of the honor colors. Next, came the casing of the 1st AD colors and the 1st Cavalry Division Chaplain performed the benediction. The Soldier March and the Army Song.

1st Cavalry has trained hard for this mission, and the 1st Armored Division is proud to have been selected. "The soldiers of the First Team and others across the world have trained extremely hard, and have worked closely together to be a part in support of the SFOR mission."

The 1st Cavalry Division hopes to continue the good work in this country.

My plan is not to change anything. 1st Armored Division said Command Sergeant Major Paul M. Inman, incoming commander to build on their foundation and try to leave a year from now to improve and work on what the 1st Armored Division has accomplished.

During his speech, Ellis gave advice to the incoming commander for their great accomplishments.

"There is still a long, challenging road ahead, and a rule of law are commonplace in this land," Ellis said. "The 1st Armored Division enjoyed many accomplishments and amassed great success. The airmen and Marines of Multinational Division (North) are very proud."

Transfers authority

ferred authority to the 1st Cavalry Division at Tuzla Airfield. Outgoing commander passed the Multinational Division (North) colors. During his speech, Ellis thanked

reaches the end of a long, hard journey in departs Multinational Division (North) "But as Old Ironsides departs, it is journey as individuals and as the 1st mission continues here. This magnificent sion (North), has not yet reached its

in country for a year. During this time, s, they have helped the people of Bosnia-ns ever. During these various missions and with professionalism.

ould be very proud about the character of ergeant Major Dwight J. Brown, outgo-D (N). "That every task and mission th distinction. They are an example of

ation Force commander and reviewing e about the outgoing and incoming com-

n these two great commanders," he said, end with whom I have commanded be-ct, and pass them to another old friend ho commands a division I have a prior e great respect."

and playing three songs. At 2:00 p.m., "Sound Off" was Ellis and Byrnes. Then, the 1st AD chaplain gave the mpany. The band then played the American national and uncasing of the 1st Cavalry colors. Finally, the 1st on, followed by the playing of Hit the Leather, Iron

according to Byrnes, they are ready for the challenge. ected to continue this very important mission," he said. e services that now make up Task Force Eagle have her preparing for this mission. We are eager to do our

great job that the 1st Armored Division did while in

ivision has done an outstanding job while in Bosnia," ing command sergeant major of MND (N). "My plan is m now, having taken it one step further, continuing to has already done."

ng 1st Cavalry soldiers, and again thanked his troops

there is still much to be done before peace, democracy is said. "None the less, we have seen much progress, successes on a variety for which you, soldiers, sailors n) are responsible and for which you can and must be



Photo by Specialist Natalie D. Haslem, 319th Mobile Public Affairs Det.

Major General Ellis and Command Sergeant Major Brown case the 1st Armored Division colors during the Transfer of Authority ceremony.



Photo by Specialist Robert B. Valentine, 319th Mobile Public Affairs Det.

The Turkish Brigade Commander stands in front of the Turkish band playing the American national anthem.

"Talons" takeoff, 4th Brigade steps in



Photo by Specialist Donald R. Dunn/ 319th Mobile Public Affairs Det.

Task Force 11 transferred authority to the 4th Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division on Sept. 26. Colonel Oliver H. Hunter (left) and Command Sergeant Major Jasper Tenney case their colors during the Transfer of Authority ceremony at Comanche Base. The "Talons" were responsible for aerial reconnaissance and lift support for 1st Armored Division, MND(N) and SFOR.

126th Medical: first National Guard MEDEVAC unit deployed to Bosnia

Story and photo by Private Louis Sardinha
22nd Mobile Public Affairs Det.

The soldier lies on the ground, wounded from a gunshot that just seemed to come out of nowhere. In pain, the soldier looks up in search for his buddies. Suddenly, he hears the sweet sound of a helicopter racing through the air. As it nears, his misting eyes see the unmistakable red cross. He breathes a sigh of relief; it's the MEDEVAC.

Saving a soldier's life, like this fictitious one, would be a job for the soldiers of 126th Medical Company, 40th Infantry Division of the California National Guard. The 126th Medical Company is the first National Guard MEDEVAC unit deployed to Bosnia, according to Sergeant Richard A. Hiatt of Sacramento, Calif., a flight medic with the 126th Medical Company Air Ambulance (AA).

If a medical evacuation is called into Tuzla, this team of four flies out and picks up injured personnel and transports them to a designated area for treatment.

As a civilian, Hiatt is a paramedic firefighter, as are most of the medics in his unit, he said. "We have a level of training that allows us to deal with most types of injuries or illnesses."

While Hiatt handles the patients, the crew chief of the UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter, Staff Sergeant Steven C. Mays, of Antioch, Calif., makes sure this aircraft is ready to go and all the personnel on board are secure. He is responsible for everyone who leaves or approaches the aircraft, but they share the responsibility for anything that happens behind the pilot seat. Mays also assists Hiatt with casualties when there is too much work for one medic to perform.

"We can handle everything from a sprained ankle to somebody stepping on a land mine or getting shot, basically all combat type casualties as well as medical scenarios," Hiatt commented.

Their training missions normally resemble what they do during real world situations, according to Hiatt.

"When doing the training, we try to get it as real as possible," Mays added.

According to Hiatt, there are two aspects to the training; there's training for the MEDEVAC unit and there's training for the units on the ground. Training units on the ground involves securing a

landing zone and sending a nine-line MEDEVAC request -- a radio request for a medical evacuation. "Both units are getting good training," he said.

In Bosnia, this MEDEVAC team just completed a series of training exercises involving Russian, Swedish and Turkish soldiers, Hiatt added.

"The hardest part of this training is the communication with the other troops," Mays said. "Their MEDEVAC training and our training might be different. It's a danger factor more than anything." Whenever foreign troops approach or leave the aircraft, Mays monitors them to make sure they follow correct safety procedures.

While at home station in California, it's typical to encounter a variety of missions such as searching for lost or injured hikers or campers, rescuing flood victims and firefighting, according to Hiatt. A lot of people go out on skis and snowboards in the western United States and get injured or stranded by weather. They have the capability to fly out and lower a medic on a 250-foot cable hoist designed for rescuing people out of situations where the helicopter can't land. "We fly basically (into) any natural or man-made mayhem," Hiatt added.

"The training we had here was really good for us," Hiatt concluded. "I think we're getting off on the right foot here by getting involved with this training and preparing for what comes later as far as real life missions."



Sergeant Richard A. Hiatt prepares patients for movement during a mass casualty medical evacuation exercise conducted at McGovern.

Preparation essential for soldier promotion board success



Sergeant Francisco A. Gonzales, team leader for Company C, 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry, pushes himself and his soldiers in physical training six days a week.

Story and Photo by Staff Sergeant Pat Johnston
319th Mobile Public Affairs Det.

You were going to run almost every day. You planned to study FM 25-100. You promised yourself that you would read a newspaper or watch that news program. What happened to all those resolutions you made a year

ago to prepare for the promotion board?

Five soldiers, corporal to sergeant, will test their preparedness before five senior enlisted board members on Oct. 9 at Camp Bedrock.

Sergeant Francisco A. Gonzales from Richmond, Va., a team leader for Company C, 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry said he's ready. He said he concentrated on exceeding his promotion requirements.

Gonzales considers his physical training score particularly important. "PT will be on the top line since my job is in the infantry," Gonzales said. He works out with his soldiers six days a week, rotating exercises and short and long-run days. That sleeping bag is like a warm cocoon on rainy, cold mornings, but Gonzales manages to get himself and his soldiers out of the sack and into their gray PT uniforms. "It's a matter of having self-discipline and self-motivation," he said.

Gonzales refers to self-discipline as the key to preparing for the promotion board members' questions. He's studied everything his first sergeant gave him so that he can answer questions from the over 20 categories that will be covered. "I feel good as far as the studying goes," Gonzales said, smiling.

The board category "Current Events," however, is a challenge to keep up with in Bosnia, said a busy Gonzales, who has soldiers at Bedrock, Guardian and Ugljevik. There is not much time to watch CNN, and the only newspaper, Stars and Stripes, is sometimes late, Gonzales said.

Gonzales recommends soldiers preparing for their promotion boards start early because there is a lot to know and do. It takes time and planning.

He said he feels pursuing education goals assists soldiers with the promotion process. "Get with an education counselor and get some college studies," Gonzales emphasized. Gonzales, married with four children, earned an Associate of Arts degree and is working towards a Bachelor of Science degree. "It's tough, but you have to do it," admitted the infantryman, who spends a lot of time in the field.

He said soldiers who want to get ahead can read the requirements for promotion in Army Regulation 600-8-19 (Enlisted Promotions and Reductions). Chapter two lists procedures and requirements for specialist grade and below. Chapter three is for sergeants and staff sergeants.

Soldiers who take charge of their careers by setting goals and working towards them everyday will look forward to the day when they stand before their promotion boards.

General Order Number One saves lives

Story and Photo by Private First Class
Phillip E. Breedlove Jr.
22nd Mobile Public Affairs Det.

Cheers resound through a tent at Camp McGovern as a football team on TV scores the winning touchdown. Five uproarious soldiers dance around the room, nearly knocking the black-and-white television off the shelf. A sergeant then walks into the room and smells the fumes of the forbidden deployment beverage — alcohol.

"You guys better get rid of that stuff before the first sergeant comes in." In unison the soldiers turn toward him and, smiling, hold up cans of near-beer.

Task Force Eagle General Order Number One strictly prohibits drinking alcohol, owning firearms and munitions not issued by the military, dining in local restaurants without permission and gambling.

Command Sergeant Major Juan D. Garcia, the 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment "Mustangs" command sergeant major, and a Hemingford, Neb., native said, "It's saving lives."

Garcia said soldiers have a responsibility to do the right thing, especially concerning alcohol. The responsibility becomes increasingly important on deployments because the risks are greater and the stakes are higher.

Specialist Joe R. McNaughten, a radar operator with section two, Company C, 21st Field Artillery Battery, 1st Cavalry Division Artillery, and a Buna, Calif. native, agrees with Garcia. He said, "Here, for example, if everyone is drunk and (the base camp is attacked), people wouldn't be thinking clearly enough to treat their buddies." He also said if people were given the privilege of

drinking, some would abuse it. While intoxicated, soldiers are likely to use poor judgement, such as operating equipment in a dangerous way, driving a vehicle or even discharging rounds.

General Order Number One states, "The most often abused provision concerns alcohol possession and consumption."

Garcia claims morale is still a priority. "(Soldiers) like to go through their regular American rituals. When they're off on the weekends, they like to drink beer."

There are many alternatives for soldiers that enjoy these rituals, Garcia said. Nonalcoholic beverages can be found at both the post Exchange and the dining facility at McGovern. The Rose Garden and ZOS Cafés at McGovern provide a relaxing, social atmosphere. Garcia said this is a reasonable solution that most soldiers utilize.

In rare cases, soldiers may have a problem with alcoholism, Garcia continued. These soldiers couldn't ask for a better place to be. McGovern's Alcoholics Anonymous program combined with the lack of alcohol makes Bosnia a wonderful opportunity to break the habit.

Specialist Yara E. DeJesus, meteorological crew member with Headquarters and Headquarters Battery Division Artillery, 25th Field Artillery Unit, 1st Armored Division, said most soldiers understand and agree with the other parts of the general order. For example, most soldiers realize that because Bosnia has different sanitation laws, it can be risky to dine in local restaurants.

Garcia said, "I do believe (General Order Number One) is fair in all circumstances." If a soldier finds the order to be unfair, Garcia said, "he is entitled to his own opinion." He added that if the soldier takes the feeling to far and breaks the law, though, he will suffer the consequences.



Soldiers from the support platoon, Headquarters and Headquarter Company, 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry, obey General Order Number One by drinking "near-beer," while watching television.

"Iron Brigade" steps down



Photo by Specialist Robert B. Valentine, 319th Mobile Public Affairs Det.

The 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, transferred authority to the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division on Oct. 1. Colonel Volney J. Warner (Left) and Command Sergeant Major Harold Doucet case their colors as a symbol of turning over command during the Transfer of Authority ceremony at Eagle Base. The "Iron Brigade" was responsible for many challenging assignments, including helping Bosnians conduct their first free election. Second Brigade Combat Team conducted numerous presence patrols, civil affairs missions and monitored ICTY exhumation sites in support of Operation Joint Forge.